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MINK et al

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PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF (4-HYDROXY-6-**OXO-TETRAHYDROPYRAN-2-YL) ACETONITRILE AND**

DERIVATIVES THEREOF

October 26, 2005

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows: